(a) whether it is a fact that Russia has been putting obstacles in India's plan to indigenously manufacture 1000 T-90 tanks by delaying transfer of technology in some critical areas like the metallurgy for gun barrels ordinance and armour plates;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the matter was discussed during the meeting of Indo-Russian Working Group on ship building, aviation and land system in August, 2008; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Transfer of technology documents for indigenous production of T-90 tanks have been received. Some more technical data relating to manufacture of gun barrel and armour plates are yet to be received.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The matter was discussed during the meeting of Indo-Russian Working group on ship building, aviation and land system in August, 2008. The Russian side agreed to deliver the specification of T-90 gun barrels by December, 2008. As regards armour plates, they have been developed indigenously.

Recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on DRDO

502. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last 10 years, 1,404 scientists have left the Defence Research and Development Organization;

(b) if so, the steps taken to check exodus;

(c) whether Fourteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Defence has recommended certain measures;

(d) if so, the details of action taken thereon;

(e) whether an incentive scheme proposed to the Government in July, 2001 has still not been approved; and

(f) if so, the details of follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) During the last 10 years (July, 1998-June, 2008), 1794 scientists, mainly at junior level, have resigned from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

(b) Sixth Central Pay Commission has recommended a number of incentives for scientists, which have been accepted and implemented by the Government. DRDO has made efforts to arrest the attrition through career enhancement by providing study leave for acquiring higher qualifications *viz.*, Ph.D., M.Tech., etc., sponsoring scientists for attending conferences/ seminars/ symposia/ short and long term training courses in frontier areas of research within the country and abroad, mentoring of young scientists, creating better working environment and social life in living campuses, etc.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. Some of the proposed incentives for the scientists have already been recommended by the Sixth Central Pay Commission. These have been accepted and implemented by the Government.